

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /073 W

-----171322Z 064481 /53

R 171020Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 727

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL DOUALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 0218

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, PINS, ACOM, MASS, CM, UR, CT, EK, SHUM, NI

SUBJECT: FRENCH AMBASSADOR ON SOVIET-CUBAN THREAT AND POSSIBLE  
CABINET CHANGES

REF: (A) YAOUNDE 201 (B) YAOUNDE 177 (C) YAOUNDE 51 (D) YAOUNDE 23  
(E) STATE 310518

1. SUMMARY. FRENCH AMBASSADOR DU BOIS INDICATED THAT HIS  
GOVERNMENT VIEWED SOVIET-CUBAN THREAT CENTRAL AFRICA MUCH SAME  
WAY AS DEPARTMENT (REF E). HE HAS ALSO ATTEMPTED CALM GURC  
FEARS E.G. AND POTENTIAL DANGER SOVIET-CUBAN PENETRATION. WITHOUT  
GOING INTO SPECIFICS, HE ALSO THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE CABINET  
CHANGES SOME TIME AFTER 4TH PARTY COUNCIL, WHICH BEGAN JAN 15TH.

END SUMMARY

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2. AFTER HAVING INFORMED APPROPRIATE GURC OFFICIALS  
(REFTELS A-D) AND SINCE HE WAS INTERMEDIARY THROUGH WHICH  
WE RECEIVED REQUEST FOR ASSESSMENT, JANUARY 14, IN COMPANY  
DCM, I CALLED ON FRENCH AMBASSADOR DU BOIS TO INFORM HIM  
OF DEPARTMENT'S VIEW SOVIET-CUBAN THREAT CENTRAL AFRICA.  
DU BOIS SAID HE HAD RECEIVED QUAI ASSESSMENT WHICH PARALLELS

OUR OWN. HE HAD ATTEMPTED REASSURE GURC, BUT HE NOT SURE THEY ARE CONVINCED. HIS IMPRESSION IS THAT GURC REMAINS APPREHENSIVE MACIE REGIME E.G. AND POTENTIAL FOR SOVIET-CUBAN MISCHIEF.

3. ON TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, DU BOIS VOLUNTEERED THAT FRENCH BELEIVE THERE NOW 50 SOVIET TECHNICALS NDJAMENA TRAINING CHADIANS AND MAINTAINING SOVIET EQUIPMENT. HE QUESTIONED CAPACITY CHADIANS ABSORB AND EFFECTIVELY USE SOVIET SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT.

4. ON RUMORED GURC CABINET CHAGES, DUBOIS SAID HE HAD HEARD NO SPECIFIC CHANGES RUMORED, BUT HE THOUGHT IT WAS AHIDJO'S STYLE TO TAKE CAREFUL NOTE OF PARTY PROCEEDINGS AND IN HIS OWN DELIBERATE AND SOLITARY FASHION ADJUST THE CABINET. THE TASK ENORMOUSLY COMPLICATED BY DELICATE TRIBAL AND REGIONAL BALANCES WHICH MUST BE MAINTAINED. EVERY HIGH OFFICIAL REPRESENTS SOME INTEREST AND THE CHANGING OF ANY ONE MEANS THAT THE SYSTEM MUST BE CORRESPONDINGLY BALANCED ELSEWHERE.  
SPIRO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY, CABINET, THREATS, REORGANIZATIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3577187  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH AMBASSADOR ON SOVIET-CUBAN THREAT AND POSSIBLE CABINET CHANGES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, PINS, ACOM, MASS, SHUM, CM, UR, CT, EK, NI  
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**Review Markings:**  
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